



South Coast
Air Quality Management District

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FAXED: APRIL 25, 2008

April 25, 2008

Mr. William E. Davis, Business Development Manager
City of Downey
11111 Brookshire Avenue
Downey, CA 90241

Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft MND) for the proposed Kelterite Asphalt Plant 12231 Pangborn Avenue and 12320 and 12328 Woodruff Avenue, Downey; and Conditional Use Permit No. 05-134

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The SCAQMD would also like to thank the lead agency for the additional time to submit comments. The following comments are meant as guidance for the Lead Agency and should be incorporated into the Final CEQA document.

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21092.5, please provide the SCAQMD with written responses to all comments contained herein prior to the adoption of the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration. The SCAQMD staff would be happy to work with the Lead Agency to address these issues and any other questions that may arise. Please contact Gordon Mize, Air Quality Specialist – CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3302, if you have any questions regarding these comments.

Sincerely,

Steve Smith, Ph.D.
Program Supervisor, CEQA Section
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

Attachment

SS:GM

LAC080401-05
Control Number

Air Quality Analysis

1. In the Air Quality Analysis in Appendix A of the Draft MND, the lead agency estimated operational air quality impacts using the URBEMIS 2002 version 8.7.0 computer model. The lead agency should be aware that the most current version of the URBEMIS model, URBEMIS2007, was released in September 2007. If the lead agency uses the model for future projects, the SCAQMD recommends that URBEMIS2007 be used. URBEMIS 2007 version 9.2.4 can be accessed at <http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/models.html> or the lead agency can follow the calculation methodologies in Chapter 9 and the Appendix to Chapter 9 in the South Coast AQMD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook. Should the lead agency conclude after its analyses that construction or operational air quality impacts exceed the SCAQMD daily significance thresholds, staff has compiled mitigation measures to be implemented if the air quality impacts are determined to be significant. Mitigation measure suggestions can be found at http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mitigation/MM_intro.html

Health Risk Assessment (HRA)

2. The heavy-heavy duty truck emission factors were limited to the vehicle model years 2003 or later in the health risk assessment (HRA). In an e-mail dated April 23, 2008, Mr. Scott Taylor of Justice and Associates stated that the owner/operators of the proposed Kelterite Asphalt Plant would be willing to accept a mitigation measure to ensure that heavy, heavy-duty truck model years would be limited to 2003 or later. However, SCAQMD recommends that the negative declaration should be changed to a mitigated negative declaration and a mitigation measure should be added to ensure that heavy, heavy-duty trucks visiting the facility would be limited to the vehicle model year of 2007 or later, instead of the model year 2003 or later. Otherwise, the analysis needs to be revised to more accurately reflect the local fleet of heavy-heavy-duty trucks.
3. A diesel particulate emission factor of 0.15 gram per brake horsepower-hour was used for the front end loader in the HRA. In an e-mail dated April 21, 2008, Mr. Scott Taylor of Justice and Associates stated that it is anticipated that the lead agency would require as a condition of approval that the loader used to feed the plant would meet the Tier 2 engine standard. The negative declaration should be changed to a mitigated negative declaration and this mitigation measure should be added to ensure that the front end loader used at the proposed project would meet at least the Tier 2 standard or, preferably, the Tier 3 standard.
4. Since the CEQA document will be changed to a mitigated negative declaration, a mitigation monitoring plan should be prepared for the two mitigation measures discussed previously.